Fact Sheet AQMD's Permit Application Penalty Holiday

1. What is the Permit Application Penalty Holiday?

A temporary opportunity for Southland government agencies and businesses that should have applied for and obtained air quality permits to get them without incurring late fees or violation penalties when certain conditions are met.

2. Why is AQMD providing a temporary permit application penalty "holiday?"

AQMD recognizes the current economic challenges that face small businesses and local governments. The permit penalty holiday will allow government agencies and business owners an opportunity to come into compliance without incurring penalties and late fees that could have some financial impact on their operations.

3. How long will it last?

Six months. It started on February 5, 2010 and will run through August 4, 2010.

4. Are other permit or rule requirements also waived for facilities during this period?

No. Facilities must pay the regular permitting fee with their application and comply with all other applicable air quality rules and regulations, such as New Source Review that requires facilities use the cleanest air pollution control technologies available.

5. Which facilities are eligible to participate in the program?

All facilities, other than very large emitters (known as federal Title V sources,) operating any piece of equipment without a permit are eligible to participate in the program. Title V facilities are eligible to participate only for small equipment operating without a permit.

6. When is a facility NOT eligible to participate?

Any facility that received a Notice to Comply or Notice of Violation from AQMD for operating a piece of equipment without a permit or which had already filed a permit application prior to February 5, 2010 is not eligible to participate.

7. How much could a facility save by participating in the program?

Cost savings vary depending on equipment type and could range from about \$900 for smaller equipment, such as a restaurant charbroiler, to about \$5,300 for other equipment such as a spray booth with pollution controls.

8. Has AQMD offered this program in the past?

Yes. AQMD offered a similar program in 1990 and again in 1995, when it received more than 600 permit applications during a six-month period, mostly from small businesses.

9. How can I get more information on the program?

Call AQMD at (909) 396-3385 or send an e-mail to permit_amnesty@agmd.gov